

DOUGLAS HOOD

February 25, 2015

To: Committee for HB. 05793
Safe Haven Day

Dear Committee Members;

We have a problem with the Safe Haven Law. It's a good law but the target population for it does not know about it. Yes, many adults are aware but our high schools students, particularly young girls, both inner city and middle class, are at best vague about it. There is no formal introduction anywhere in their curriculum or the Connecticut education system.

As a result we have incidents whereby young girls who find themselves pregnant and alone in their plight resort to "trashing" the baby or actually killing it. We have a few young women at the women's prison, York CI, guilty of this crime that should never have happened. We have no numbers on the women that hide their pregnancy and secretly dispose of the babies. If this population knew how easy it would be to save their baby, give it a good home, and not be blamed or face prosecution, undoubtedly we would save young lives.

Pamela Sawyer has bravely taken on the task of trying to remedy this situation. She has put together a task force, a diverse group of volunteers, with no funding, who have met so far about 8 times brainstorming for ideas to publicize the law. Many of their creative projects are still in the works. The introduction of this bill is just one.

I fully endorse this HB. 05973 and see it as a key part of a larger effort to let our young girls know there is a solution for their time of distress that can save not only their unborn baby but their own future.

Thank you for your consideration,

Douglas Hood


North Haven

hoodchina@hotmail.com